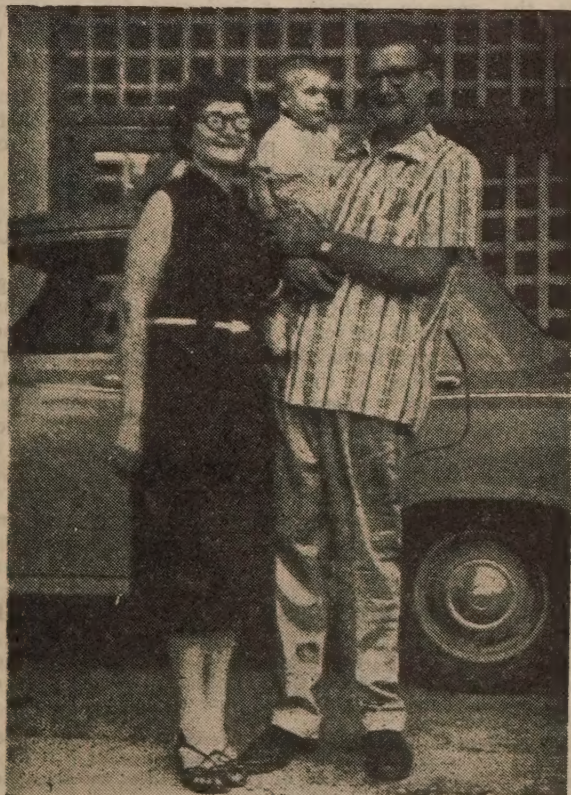


THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Published bi-monthly by the Ev. Lutheran Church in British Guiana, New Amsterdam, Berbice, British Guiana
Editor — CYRIL S. CHU Asst. Editor — Rev. H. C. MAGALEE

Vol. ~~XII~~ XVII . 4

July—August, 1959



PASTOR AND MRS. BARRY LANG AND KIRK

Missionaries Home on Furlough

Paster W. J. Wolff & Family flew out of British Guiana during the month of June on KLM's "Flying Dutchman". Pastor Wolff has done a magnificent job, serving as Chairman of the Administrative Committee, Treasurer of the church, Pastor of the Bel Air Parish and also serving on many other Committees. Pastor Wolff's many years of service assisted him greatly in the very arduous task which fell to his lot.

We appreciate the yeoman service rendered by this Christian Worker. The church in British Guiana wish for him and his family a very pleasant furlough.

Pastor & Mrs. F. D. Christhlf & family also returned home on KLM's "Flying Dutchman" a month later. During Pastor

Christhlf's first term of service "things" just happened in the Skeldon and Lower Corentyne Parishes. Statistics reveal the growth of these two Parishes in Stewardship and Evangelism. Stewardship and Evangelism is now the key word among the members of the Parishes. Besides serving the many congregations Pastor Christhlf was able to devote much time to the Skeldon Lutheran High School and to serve on many committees of the Church. Truly, this Christian Worker has done a wonderful job. We wish for the Christhlf's a wonderful time in the United States and eagerly look forward to their return.

Miss Ruth Zartman was forced to returned home to seek medical aid. Our prayers ascend for this devoted worker asking the Great Physician's help.

Missionaries Return on Furlough

The church rejoices over the return of Pastor & Mrs. E. B. Meyer & family and Miss Elaine Wagner. After an absence of one year in the United States these Missionaries have returned to labor with us together for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Pastor Meyer and family will live at Williamsburg. Pastor Meyer, is assigned to the Lower Corentyne Parish.

This will be Miss Wagner's fourth term of service in British Guiana. We appreciate her love for the people and the work in B.G. Miss Wagner has taken up residence with Miss Fague at 8, St. Ann Street, New Amsterdam. The preparing of Sunday School Literature for our Church will be the primary assignment for Miss Wagner.

Front Page—

PASTOR AND MRS. BARRY LANG AND KIRK.

It is with great joy, that we record the arrival of another missionary family, the Langs. In June of this year Pastor Barry Lang and family arrived in British Guiana to serve as missionaries in our Church.

Pastor Lang was born to Jack and Eleanor Lang of Hanover, Ontario, Canada. Pastor Lang has one brother, Paul.

In 1955, Pastor Lang obtained his B.A. degree from Waterloo College, Ontario, Canada. He received his Theological education at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary and was ordained in 1958.

Pastor Lang is married to the former Alice Bald, daughter to the Rev. and Mrs. Louis Bald of Chicago, Illinois. In 1958 a son, Kirk Louis was born to them.

The Church has assigned Pastor Lang to the Skeldon Parish, Corentyne. On behalf of the Church, the Southern Cross, extends a hearty welcome to these our co-workers. We wish for them a happy and fruitful term of service.

Upper Berbice River Parish

Pastor A. J. HENNE.

The log book of the Swan II notes the news-worthy visits of two recently arrived missionary families, the Executive Secretary of the United Lutheran Church Women in America and the President of the Lutheran Church in British Guiana.

Visiting the Parish in May were Pastor and Mrs. Donald R. Gebert. Their visit came only a few days after Pastor Gebert officially assumed his duty as Treasurer of the Church, and afforded him the opportunity to observe the conditions on the river relating to housing and building needs.

During July Pastor and Mrs. Barry C. Lang had similar opportunity to see the parish, spending two days of their six-day visit at Ituni where they enjoyed the affable company of Catechist Blair who travelled about the district with them. The Pastor was occupied at the time with supervising the Primary School Certificate Examination which was being given at the Mt. Carmel School Centre during the 30th - 31st July.

In August the Parish was privileged to receive Miss Josephine I. Darmstaetter, Executive Secretary of the United Lutheran Church Women in America, in company with Miss Marianne Fague and Mrs. W.E. Cox. Miss Darmstaetter visiting British Guiana enroute to Uruguay and Argentina took time following the local Women's League convention to visit the river Parish. Pressure of time did not allow Miss Darmstaetter to see the entire Parish but memorable visits to DeVelde, Kimbia and St. Lust including an on-the-spot inspection of oven baking at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Reece afforded many moments of friendly conversation with members of the Church. Miss Darmstaetter and Miss Fague addressed the women of Mt. Hermon Congregation on the purposes and programme of of women's work.

Also in August the Rev. and Mrs. Bowen and family visited the Parish, travelling as far as Ituni. Pastor Bowen who had served the river Parish made his last visit to the Parish in 1954 on the occasion of the Dedication of Reformation Church, Kir. The workers and members of the Parish pleased to see Pastor Bowen again at welcome his family.

The death of Mr. Raymond Van Br Paradise, after long illness on 17th, saddened the members of the Parish. He knew him as a quiet and patient servant of his Church. Brother Ray, as he was affectionately known to many, was a devoted vestryman of Mt. Carmel Congregation respected by his fellow-workers both in church and community, and a man who brought glory to his Lord through his years of wise service to the Church and brotherly example of life.

Brief statistics for the half-year ending 30th June, show that the Parish has achieved 29.4% of its projected 1959 apportionment of \$ 4,713.00. The Congregations showing most rapid advance towards their goals are: Grace—DeVelde and Reformation—Kimbria who have achieved respectively 49.4% and 40.0% of their apportionment for the year. Percentages for the remaining Congregations are: Mt. Olivet, 30.9%; Atonement, 30.1%; St. Paul, 26.5%; Mt. Hermon, 20.4%; Mt. Carmel, 18.6%.

Hururu and Riverside Chapel, while regarded only as preaching points have achieved unusually high percentages in their giving towards the Parish goal. Had these Churches been assigned their exact share in the Parish apportionment statistics would show that they have achieved 81.6% and 66% of their respective goals.

Upper Berbice River Parish — Continued.

Members of the Wakamukru Logging Co-operative Association and Congregation at Hururu have contributed to the purchase of a dug-out boat costing \$150.00. The purchase of a motor is also planned by the members. The purchase of the equipment is being done for the purpose of serving the needs of the Church and the residents of the settlement which is remotely located some 130 miles in the interior. Mr. Loy, resident lay-reader reports: "It is our free gift to the Church, out of our gratefulness to God, to be used in time of sickness, distress, important and urgent business." Members and residents sharing in the common task of providing the equipment are Messrs. L. Causway, L. Viviros, J. Reis, N. John, A. Wilson, L. Thomas, E. Daniels, J. Alstine, A. Isaacs, W. John and S. Williams. The residents will use money received from the sale of timbers.

Residents at Hururu have applied to

Government for a self-help piggery in a move toward more community development. An acre of experimental land will be used to start a citrus orchard. Mr. Loy, on behalf of the residents of the settlement acknowledges the helpful advice and assistance which government officers have rendered. Among those who have visited the settlement recently were Mr. Bacchus, self-help officer, Assistant District Commissioner, Richards, Mr. Trotman, from the Department of Agriculture and Mr. Persaud of the Government Information Service.

At DeVelde work has begun in clearing ground for a Community Centre which will be built also through self-help assistance. Catechist Munro envisions that the erection of such a centre will contribute much to the educational and social development of the district. Residents of the district have pledged themselves to support this pioneer venture.

Buxton Parish

Pastor — Rev. A. R. BOWEN.

SALEM — BACHELOR'S ADVENTURE

Catechist — R. L. Singh

Once again the second quarterly apportionment has been paid in full by this Congregation. We offer our congratulations to the members for their devotion and christian responsibilities.

Bereavement : Sunday, 14th June, was a sad day when old Mother Singh passed away. She was the mother of Catechist R. L. Singh, known as Brother Singh. To him and his family we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

Luther League : The members of this League continue to show their interest and love for the organization by attending regularly.

A pledge system has been introduced and it proved to be very successful. May God bless them in their efforts in building His Kingdom.

MESSIAH — NON PARIEL

Lay Reader — J. S. Abdool.

Stewardship : We are happy to report that the second quarterly apportionment of \$73.00 has been paid in full. We pray and trust that our Heavenly Father may help us to reach our final goal.

Baptism : Received into membership by baptism were Parbatie, Biraspati, and Goytie Samsoundarrh.

Buxton Parish — Continued.

Engagement: Heartiest congratulations and best wishes were extended to one of our members, Mr. Martin Moniram of Non Pariel and Miss Khemrajie Singh of Bachelor's Adventure on their engagement on June 29th, 1959. It was a happy occasion and everyone had an enjoyable time. May God bless them.

Luther League: It was a very happy occasion on Saturday, 27th June, 1959 when Messiah Luther League was host of the East Demerara First District Luther League Rally. An inspiring sermon on the theme "GO YE AND TELL" was preached by Mr. Ronald Mohabir. Mr. Shaheed on behalf of the host welcomed the gathering.

A very impressive bible study on the Book of the Judges was given by guest speaker, Miss Martha Petersen. She also led the group in community singing which was enjoyed by all.

Officers elected to serve are as follows: Mr. Rudy Bowen, President; Mr. Ronald Mohabir, Vice-President; Miss Lynett Singh, Secretary; Miss Rudy Singh, Treasurer; Committee members Mr. Aaron P. Boodhai and Miss Shirley Singh; Rev. A. R. Bowen, Advisor.

We say thanks to Mr. Geoffrey Tannasse our Synodical Luther League President for his undivided efforts and keen interest in the formation of the district Luther League and all those who helped to make this Rally the success it was.

HOLY TRINITY — BUXTON

Catechist — J. R. Singh

Anniversary: The Tenth Anniversary of Dedication was celebrated in a big way on the 14th June. An overflowing crowd attended the service. The Rev. P. G. Hansen was the guest speaker. His message for the occasion

was a very challenging one on "Christian Responsibility". The offering was more than \$20.00 which went to help paying for our bell. During the service the following were received:

Adult Baptism: William Wilfred and Rampaul and Hardai Samaroo.

Infant Baptism: Merline Elizabeth Pyle, Merline, Norma and Maudeline Patiram.

Confirmation: Florence Kerutt, Leila Singh, Lena Singh and Shirley Nagassar.

By Transfer: Shirley Singh and Kamal Persaud.

Evangelism: We wish to express thanks to Catechist Arnold Persaud, a member of the Committee on Evangelism for his visit and presentation. Elected to serve on the Committee on Evangelism and Stewardship are Mr. Abraham Khan, Mr. Rudolph Singh, Mrs. Edith Miller, Mrs. Veronica Bess, Mrs. Dora Singh and Sylvia Nagassar.

The continuous rainfall severely affected our people and farms were completely washed away. It has had a bad effect on the attendance of our two Sunday Schools at Vigilance and Annandale. We hope and pray that some day they will have a small building to worship in; however, we highly appreciate the privilege extended to us by Mr. Moniram of Vigilance and Mr. Joe Driver of Annandale to hold these Sunday Schools under their houses. Our Sunday Schools have paid in full for their materials to date.

Death: We regret to record the tragic death of Mr. George Tiwari, husband of Mrs. Enid Tiwari, sister of our faithful members, Frank H. Baron, Rickford Baron, Patrick Baron, Frederick Baron (U.S.A.) and Claudia Straughn. We extend our deepest sympathy to the bereaved.

Buxton Parish — Continued.

Officers of the Vestry are Messrs. A. R. Nizam, Secretary, Patrick Goriah, Harold Sankar, Richard Melville and Joseph Kirton.

16 Women's League: Despite the attendance is not too good the members decided to meet every Wednesday at 1.00 p.m. We appreciate the spirit of determination and courage of the faithful few and we hope and pray the other woman will follow suit.

Luther League: The members of this group continue to show their interest in its development. Right now the plan to build a book press to start a library is under way. Leaguers are depending on interested and sympathetic person for donation of books.

The League meets under the Catechist House and suffer great inconvenience when it rains. We wish we could concrete the place.

We hope and pray and wish them every success.

Rev. A. R. BOWEN.

teacher, Miss Pearly Khandasammy was engaged to Mr. Haru of Mahaicony. We offer our congratulations to them and we look forward to the day of their marriage.

HOLY COMMUNION — VICTORIA
Catechist — F. B. Miller

Baptism: Received into membership by the rite of baptism were: Claudia Pamela, Titon Nehru, Stella Ramdai and Lilly Brahmawatee.

Mrs. Catherine Jansen a faithful member of our congregation has been ill for some time and has had to return to her native Berbice River in the interest of her health. Latest reports reveal that she is at present a patient at the Kwakwani Hospital. We pray for her speedy recovery.

Lower Corentyne Parish

Acting Pastor D. R. GEBERT.

ST. JOHN — WILLIAMSBURG

Catechist — David Lalsingh.

Parsonage : The Parsonage at St. John is in progress, and it is hoped that the Pastor will reside in it before the end of 1959.

History : In the history of the Lower Corentyne Parish, it would be that on the 1st September, 1959, there would be a permanent Pastor for the Parish, and he would reside at St. John.

The members of St. John are anxiously awaiting for the coming of their Pastor, Pastor Meyer.

Compound : The Church yard now has a new look.

Sunday School : This Sunday School has two more teachers in the parson of Kamar Raghunath (Primary Class) and David Raghunath (Junior Class).

Library : The Luther League has planned to start a Library, and the President of the League, through this medium is appealing to all friends to denote books to this library and send same to the above mentioned address.

Baptism : 1. Beryl Pahanai Narsayah.



Excutive Secretary for the United Lutheran Church Women in America Miss Josephine Darmstaetter, touched down at Atkinson Airport on August 2nd, 1959. Her two weeks visit was really a busy one. She was here primarily to take part in the Convention of the Women's League. Nevertheless, she was able to see much of our work from the Corentyne Coast on to away up the Berbice River. Her charming personality and affable disposition won for her many a heart

Skeldon Parish

Pastor — BARRY C. LANG.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Skeldon:

The members of this Congregation still regard Evangelism as their Big Job. Visiting teams continue to seek out both active and inactive members. The visitors know that with every person becoming more interested in Church attendance, naturally the Giving will be enhanced. The Congregation is way over its half year's apportionment.

The following persons were received into membership:—

Adult Baptism: Mrs. Narine, John Ragnauth, Gagraj Baichan, Bunny Housain, Amadadeen Khan, Farida Isahawk, Mohammed Zalim, Moorley Samsundar.

Confirmation: Pautadee Brijbasi, Mrs. Brijbasi, Mrs. Deonarine.

Transfers: Mrs. G. Lewis, Joseph Gromanie.

Catechist Harry Rajabally: The Congregation is proud to learn, that the church in British Guiana has selected Catechist Rajabally as a Ministerial Student. Catechist Rajabally assumed duties in 1957 and has done a mighty good job. He deserves being selected. His wife has been of invaluable help to him in many respects. We offer him our sincere congratulations. We shall pray for him as he proceeds to Inter American University of Puerto Rico.

Pastor and Mrs. F. D. Christhilf and Family: We can hardly believe, that a term of three years is finished for the Christhilfs. Pastor Christhilf and family gained the respect and love of the members in a very short while. What has been achieved at Emmanuel and in the Skeldon Parish is a testimony of the conscientious labors of Pastor Christhilf. Members of the Congregation availed themselves the opportunity to bid farewell to the Pastor and his family during services and at the Luther League Rally.

Pastor Barry C. Lang and Family

We were fortunate to receive Pastor Lang to shepherd us almost immediately after Pastor Christhilf left. We welcome Pastor Lang and family and promise him our loyal support.

St. Philip, Springlands: This Congregation was host to the Parish Conference. Delegates from the various Congregations welcomed the new Pastor, the Rev. Barry C. Lang and family. At the conclusion of the conference it was the opinion of everyone present that it was a very inspiring and successful conference.

Visitation: Members of the Luther League under the direction of Mr. E. Sewd are calling on regular, prospective and lapse members. They even visit with the Sunday School children. Evidence of their labours is reflected in the fact that they have already contributed more than their half year apportionment.

Those received into Membership are:—

Baptism: Mr. Kemraj Ramsagar

Confirmation: Misses Indra Crepan and Melene Singh.

Luther League Activities: The Leaguers are very fortunate in having Mr. Saunders, Police Inspector of Springlands offering to give all help and co-operation possible. The Leaguers are extremely grateful to Mr. Saunders.

Place of Worship: It is the prayer of this Congregation that it won't be too long before they will have a permanent place of worship.

Farewell to Pastor Christhilf and Catechist Rajabally

We are sorry to lose these two faithful workers. However, we rejoice that Pastor Christhilf and family can return home on a well earned furlough and that Catechist Rajabally is given the opportunity to further his studies in order to become one of the leaders of our Church in British Guiana.